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found for four planets, yield a better agreement for *Uranus* as well as a good prediction for the rotation period of *Neptune*, which has not yet been determined from direct measures.

Flagstaff, Ariz., Nov. 12, 1922.

KNUT LUNDMARK.

NOTE ON THE RADIAL VELOCITY OF A. G. HELS. 7484

(R. A. $13^{\text{h}}.9^{\text{m}}.5$, Dec. $+57^{\circ}14'$, $6^{\text{m}}.7$, G5)

Attention to this star was called by Hertzsprung, who, on evidence of the proper motion, suspected the star to be a member of the *Ursa Major* stream. The radial velocity computed on the basis of that assumption is -14 km/sec.

Five spectrograms of this star were secured between April 18 and May 12, 1922, two with the Mills three-prism spectrograph and three with a one-prism spectrograph. The resulting radial velocities are -7.9 , -5.1 (III pr.) -14 , -6 , -15 km/sec (I pr.) giving for the weighted mean -8 km/sec. From the plates no evidence can be found for doubling of the lines but the possibility still remains open that the star has a variable velocity.

As especially the three prism velocities differ more from the computed velocity than the permissible error we can as yet not decide whether this star does or does not physically belong to the *Ursa Major* group.

Nov. 10, 1922.

WILLEM J. LUYTEN.

PERSONAL NOTES

On the occasion of the inauguration of Dr. C. R. Richards as President of the Lehigh University, on October 14, honorary degrees were conferred upon some of Lehigh's distinguished alumni. Among these awards was the degree of Doctor of Science to Professor Richard Hawley Tucker (C. E. '79), astronomer in the Lick Observatory, and to William Bowie (C. E. '95), chief of the Division of Geology, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

¹B. A. N., 1, 86, 1922.

At the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences held in New York, on November 14-16, the Draper Medal was awarded to Professor Henry Norris Russell, director of the Princeton University Observatory, and Research Associate of the Mount Wilson Observatory.

GENERAL NOTES

Transactions of the International Astronomical Union; Volume I, 1922:—This volume will be an indispensable reference book. It consists of six parts, which present, in order, the preparations for the meeting, with the preliminary committee reports; an account of the inaugural ceremony, with the addresses delivered on that occasion; the minutes of the General Assembly on May 3rd and 4th; the minutes of the meetings of the standing committees; the minutes of the General Assembly on May 9th and 10th; the "Conclusions Adoptées"; and, in an appendix, the statutes of the Union, the regulations of the International Time Commission and of the Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, and, finally, a complete list of the committees and of their members. The material is arranged logically and with no unnecessary duplication, and the table of contents, which is in effect also an index, makes it easy to refer to any desired report or address.

Every part of the book, the formal addresses, the minutes of meetings, the historical introduction, as well as the committee reports, will be found of great interest; but it is the committee reports and the conclusions adopted by the Union on the basis of these reports that will be most frequently referred to. It may seem invidious to single out one or two of these reports for special mention here when they are all of value, not only to those engaged in the particular field of research of which they treat but to astronomers generally, but it is safe to say that no reports will be more widely read or more often used than those of (14) the *Commission des étalons de longueur d'onde et tables de spectres solaires*, and (25) the *Commission de photométrie stellaire*, which include most carefully prepared tables of